

**Correction**

In the Jan. 31 article, "Balancing One Checkbook On Two Fronts Tricky Act," it stated that the local telephone company will restore telephone service free of charge with a copy of deployment orders; however, this isn't the case. There is a 50 euro reconnection fee. Also, airmen choosing to terminate telephone service for the duration of their deployment must pay an estimated final bill before leaving. Airmen choosing to leave their phone service on pay an estimated monthly bill. The bill will then carry forward a credit until it is used. For more information, visit the base Deutsche Telekom branch office in the Spangdahlem AB post office or call Bill Triplett, base personal financial counselor, at 452-6422.

**Wing's newest lieutenant colonels**

The lieutenant colonel line of the Air Force, judge advocate general, chaplain, biomedical sciences corps, and nurse corps boards selected 1,708 majors for promotion to lieutenant colonel. The lieutenant colonel's board considered 8,632 officers.

52nd Fighter Wing lieutenant colonel selects are: David Duque, 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron; Steven Hormel, 52nd FW; Dale Larkin, 81st Fighter Squadron; James Meinders, 470th Air Base Squadron, NATO Air Base, Geilenkirchen; Adrian Pone, 52nd Operations Support Squadron; John Shields, 52nd Comptroller Squadron; Inez Sookma, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron; and Cassandra Thomas, 52nd FW.

**Readiness program**

Mobility bags should be packed and ready to go at all times; however, although this statement is true, it's not always possible. There are instances when money is tight and service members need to use their mobility bag supplies. To help, Team Eifel's American Red Cross assists airmen E-4 and below to obtain some mobility supplies. The supplies are available free for servicemembers identified by their first sergeants as most in need of the service.

The ARC invites local community members to donate mobility bag supplies at the Bitburg Annex and Spangdahlem Air Base commissary and shopette. Recommended donations include shaving cream, razors, full-sized deodorant, soap bars, tubes of toothpaste, sanitary napkins or tampons, toothbrushes, combs, brushes and shampoo. For more information, call the 52nd Fighter Wing ARC Office at 452-9440.

**Space-available travel**

The Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense has approved a one-year test to evaluate the expansion of space-available privileges for dependents traveling within the continental United States. The test will allow dependents of active duty and retired service members to travel within the U.S. when accompanied by their sponsors. The test is begins April 1 and lasts one year. Dependents will assume the same category of travel as their sponsor.

Space-available sign up for this program will be effective April 1. Retired members may sign up 60 days in advance, but no earlier than April 1. Active-duty members must be in a leave or pass status to register for space-available travel, remain in a leave or pass status

See **Briefs**, Page 4

# Eifel Times

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Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Feb. 7, 2003

*Staff Sgt Karen Z. Silcott*  
**Master Sgt. Gregory Mann, 52nd Component Maintenance Squadron, practices delivering the propulsion flight briefing as unit members Staff Sgts. Scott Fitzgerald and Richard Young watch in support. The inspection team for the 2003 Commander-In-Chief Installation Excellence Award visits Spangdahlem Air Base the second week in February.**

## Commander primes wing briefers for Installation Excellence finals

### Attitude, ingenuity of unit members best strategy for base

**By Airman 1st Class Amaani F. Lyle**  
 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

In preparation for the final round of the 2003 Commander-in-Chief Installation Excellence competition, the 52nd Fighter wing commander primed active-duty members and civilian workers slated to represent their groups before the panel of judges Feb. 10.

Spangdahlem Air Base has already garnered nods in the initial round of competition, as did Kadena Air Base, Japan, and Hurlburt Field, Fla., in which each installation was awarded \$500,000.

Col. Stephen Mueller said he's certain the teamwork and enthusiasm base personnel exhibited in the last round of competition will once again put Spangdahlem AB head and shoulders above the rest. He added Spangdahlem's prior success came as a result of "everyone being able to identify with the mission" and express that in their own way.

"What really impressed (the evaluators) was your ability to tell them how you fit into keeping Team Eifel ready," he said. "Without a script, you could brag about what you do, and believe me, that's impressive."

The wing commander apparently allayed potential anxiety associated with public speaking by giving the slated briefers and alternates advice about their demeanor and discouraging them from relying solely on scripted material.

"Pretend you're talking to your mom or dad, and you're telling them what you do," he said. "I think we could take anybody from our wing, and with that kind of delivery, have the same success."

The colonel also discussed the importance of keeping the base neat, as well as personal dress and appearance, all of which factor into winning the competition.

"I encourage everyone to get involved and pay attention to your work areas to make sure everything looks sharp," he said. "Make yourselves and the base look good -- everywhere -- since the judges may not stick to an itinerary."

The panel was opened for questions and the commander made a query of his own.

"How will we spend the money?" asked the commander before mentioning the renovations currently under way, and stressing the expediency in which funds will be distributed.

"We're already making improvements with wide-ranging impact," he said. "We want the funds to be used quickly, so you see the results while you're here on tour."

"In the end, it's the ingenuity of our people that allow us to be 'Team Eifel Ready.'"

## Medical personnel discuss smallpox screening, site care

**By Airman 1st Class Amaani F. Lyle**  
 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Maj. David Duque, 52nd Medical Group Public Health commander, and Capt. John Hatfield, 52nd Medical Group Public Health deputy flight commander, have conducted daily briefings to advise military members about the threat to mission readiness that the smallpox virus poses and to educate them about post-vaccination care.

Vaccinations have already begun for numerous wing members at Spangdahlem Air Base in preparation for pending deployments.

"If there is one case of smallpox on the planet, that's considered an outbreak," said Hatfield. "We think Iraq may possess or could obtain the variola virus and that's our reason for concern."

The flight deputy commander said prevention helps ensure the health and safety of U.S. troops, since an outbreak would severely disrupt the military's ability to fight the war on terrorism, particularly down range.

He added preemptive measures would most effectively minimize possible harm, since the vaccine can be given up to

three days after exposure, but symptoms can remain dormant for up to two weeks.

Hatfield discussed the importance of post-vaccination care, explaining the vaccine leaves vaccinia virus on the surface of the skin. This produces an immune response that protects against variola virus, the virus that causes smallpox. The vaccine itself cannot cause smallpox. If the site is touched, the virus can be spread to another part of the body

See **Smallpox**, Page 2

# Air Force extends current, upcoming deployments

By Master Sgt. Rick Burnham  
Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON** — Currently and soon-to-be deployed airmen will remain deployed longer than the previously targeted three-month rotation, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper announced Jan. 28 in a message to all airmen. The change was made to meet the needs of combatant commanders.

Specifically, active-duty and mobilized reserve-component airmen deployed with Air and Space Expeditionary Forces 7 and 8 and those deploying as part of new taskings ordered by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld on Dec. 24 should anticipate remaining in place until further notice, Jumper said in the message.

Airmen in some “stressed” career fields have already been extended beyond three months.

The need for additional forces is part of a buildup of air power in Southwest Asia, ready to achieve national security objectives if directed by the president.

“We must interrupt our normal three-month AEF rotation cycle because the resources in a single AEF pair can no longer satisfy the needs of our combatant commands,” Jumper said.

The general said that the change would likely increase the amount of time many airmen are deployed. But, he added, it is a necessary move and one he feels will be taken in stride by airmen everywhere.

“I know this is a lot to ask, and I am confident that every airman understands

we have been called upon once again by our nation,” he said. “Our success as an Air Force depends on how we prepare for and execute operations.”

Jumper’s words echoed those in a message sent by Rumsfeld the same day to people in the Department of Defense.

“In recent weeks and months, the

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**“We must interrupt our normal three-month AEF rotation cycle because the resources in a single AEF pair can no longer satisfy the needs of our combatant commands.”**

**-- Gen. John P. Jumper  
Air Force Chief of Staff**

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President has called the world’s attention to Saddam Hussein’s regime in Iraq,” Rumsfeld said. “He has rallied the United Nations to enforce its resolutions calling for the regime’s disarmament.”

In light of these developments, DOD leaders recognize the uncertainty longer deployments may create for those in uniform, the civilians who work beside them, and their families, Rumsfeld said.

“Be assured that the President will not decide to commit forces unless conditions require it, and only as a last resort,” Rumsfeld said. “Should action be necessary, you will have what you need to carry

out the missions assigned.”

Jumper said every effort will be made to relieve those deployed in a way that accommodates mission requirements.

“I assure you that we will continue to assess the evolving situation and develop rotation plans which seek to relieve our forces in the most equitable fashion while still meeting combatant commanders’ warfighting requirements,” he said. “Although AEF rotation timing will change, we will make every effort to preserve the AEF sequence which will give us the ability to sustain our operations over the long term.

“When able, we will return to a more normalized three-month AEF battle rhythm.”

Although that rhythm is intended to provide airmen and their families with a predictable schedule for deployments, resulting in a more normal lifestyle, an implicit understanding is that increased operations tempo changes everything, Jumper said.

“Sustaining on-going requirements with three-month rotations has become part of our Air Force culture,” Jumper said. “But we need to remember that the AEF structure also allows us to posture for a full range of combat operations, including major theater contingencies that require more forces than can be provided by one AEF pair on a three-month rotation.”

It is a national security matter, he said, one in which the efforts of the entire Air Force team will be needed. (Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Master Sgt. Terry L. Blevins  
**Airman 1st Class Antony Ferrucca, 379th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, checks tire pressure on a deployed F-16CJ in the Central Command Area of Responsibility in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.**

## Smallpox

Continued from Page 1

or to another person.

“The vaccinia remains at the site until the scab falls off,” said Hatfield. “During the three weeks following vaccination, you are contagious and need to be aware of proper dressing and cleaning of the site.”

According to public health, the vaccination site should leave an approximately one centimeter red blister that turns white six to eight days after vaccination, before scabbing. If no white blister appears, another vaccination may be required.

Most people experience normal, mild reactions, such as sore arm, fever, headache, body ache or fatigue. Symptoms usually peak eight to 12 days after vaccination.

Duque said receiving the vaccination now is safer than it has ever been, due in part to a screening process, a short questionnaire given to all potential recipients, and precludes those prone to adverse reactions, those with skin conditions, allergies, and pregnant or nursing mothers.

“If you have concerns, you can come talk to us, but you must use (operational risk management),” said Duque. “What is the risk, and knowing what kind of people we’re facing versus the threat of the vaccine.”

He urged those with concerns to contact the immunizations clinic at 452-8121 or public health at 452-8308. Further information can be obtained from the official military web site [www.smallpox.army.mil](http://www.smallpox.army.mil), or by way of e-mail: [vaccines@amedd.army.mil](mailto:vaccines@amedd.army.mil).

### Smallpox post-vaccination instructions

Military members who receive the smallpox vaccination should use the following instructions and precautions.

- Be thorough in hand washing, particularly before and after restroom use, and when handling contact lenses. Wearing glasses until site heals is preferred.
  - Wear long sleeves to cover the site.
  - Dispose of bandages in sealable or double plastic bags. Carefully add bleach, soap or alcohol if desired.
  - Keep site dry, except normal bathing.
  - Launder clothing, towels, and sheets in hot water with detergent or bleach.
  - Avoid pregnancy for four weeks after vaccination
- (For more post-vaccination care instruction, visit [www.smallpox.army.mil](http://www.smallpox.army.mil).)

## Accidents

By Iain H. Lotan  
52nd Security Forces Squadron  
Reports and Analysis

Nineteen Team Eifel members experienced vehicle accidents in the past week, two of which were major.

The first major accident occurred while traveling south on A-1 towards Koblenz. An airman reported that while he attempted to pass another vehicle he drove over a patch of black ice, which resulted in the loss of control of his vehicle. It hit the passing lane guardrail and then rear of another vehicle.

The airman was treated for minor burns caused by the driver’s side airbag. The other driver was transported to a local hospital for neck pain. Both vehicles sustained disabling damage and were towed from the scene.

The second major accident occurred while traveling on Zurmaierstrasse, in Trier early Sunday morning. An airman reported he hit a curb and light pole on Zurmaierstrasse.

A Trier Polizei investigation revealed alcohol was a contributing factor to the accident. The airman was arrested and charged with driving under the influence. Further action is still pending. The light pole was knocked loose from its foundation. The vehicle sustained disabling damage and was towed from the scene.

The seventeen minor accidents consisted of the following:

- Five from inattentive driving.
- Nine identified as speeds too fast for conditions.

■ One from wildlife.

■ Two from backing.

In addition, twenty-four citations were issued. Also, the wing’s running total for DUI incidents is now three for the year.

### Safety tidbit

DUI’s are a severe offense, which can result in serious bodily damage or even death in some cases. The ramifications of a DUI can be a hardship not only to an airman’s career, but also to the family.

As stated on the back of the U.S. Army Europe Certificate of License, “the acceptance of this certificate will be deemed as consent to chemical test for alcohol or other drug content of blood, breath, and/or urine. Refusal to submit to chemical test will result in the revoca-

tion of driving privileges. The retention of this USAREUR Certificate of License is a privilege not a right.”

According to our local directive at Spangdahlem Air Base Instruction 31-204 cites the penalties for committing a DUI offense, one of which is 2.6.1: Those who refuse to take or complete a lawfully requested chemical test under implied consent provisions, and are subsequently convicted for drunk driving, will have their license revoked for 12 months for each offense. Both revocations will run consecutively for a total of 24 months.

Instead of drinking and driving, call Airmen Against Drunk Driving at 0656561-2233 or Ride for Life at 06575-1010.



# Banquet highlights wing's top 12

## Entire Team Eifel community encouraged to show support for wing annual achievements

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

The Eifel Times weekly Top Saber performers and teams, and Eifel Salutes attest to the fact that the wing has no shortage of outstanding airmen, but within two weeks from today, wing leaders will have to single out only 12.

The 52nd Fighter Wing Annual Awards banquet is the wing's premier gala event in which leaders name "the best of the best" from amongst all the quarterly award winners throughout the year.

In years past, first sergeants have sold about 450 tickets to the event, but the current increased operations tempo and recent deployments may mean less attendees. However, banquet organizers have extended a special invite to deployed spouses.

"All wing personnel, family members, along with special guests, are encouraged to attend," said Senior Master Sgt. Lisa Kuehnl, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron first sergeant and banquet chairwoman. "This is a chance to show your support for those individuals being recognized as well as to show your support for your squadron and the wing as a whole."

In addition to the 12 airmen selected to go

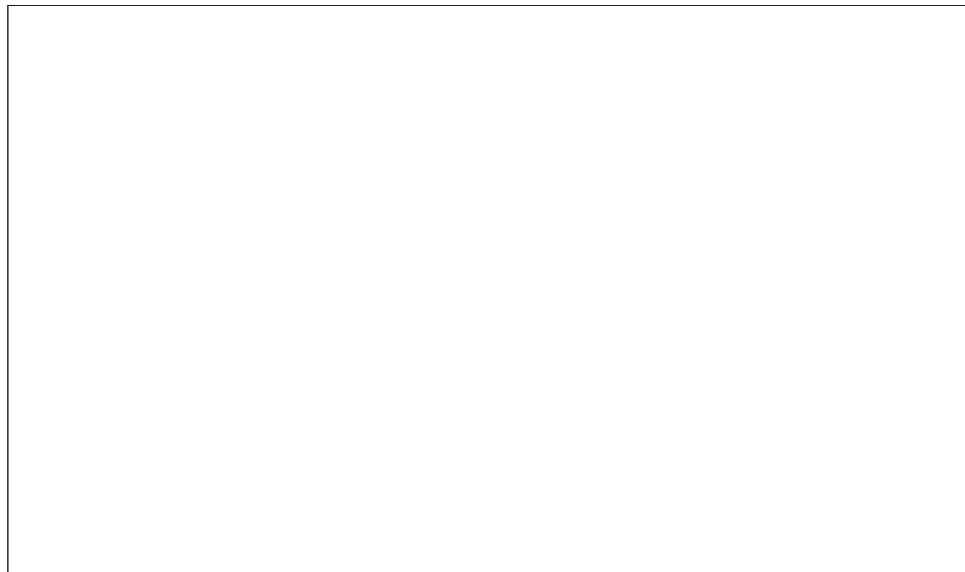
forward to compete at Numbered Air Force level, wing leaders will select the first sergeant of the year and other annual awards. Those include company grade officer, civilian employee, piloting, honor guard, Red Cross volunteer, foreign object debris fighter, resource advisor and Lance P. Sijan recognition.

Some of the members nominated are currently deployed and spouses and unit members may accept the award on behalf of the member, according to Master Sgt. Thomas Wilson, 52nd Maintenance Operations Squadron first sergeant and banquet chairman.

"It would be great to have a large crowd there to help support the spouses and units represented," said Kuehnl.

The event takes place Feb. 22 in the base fitness center. Cocktail hour is at 5:30 p.m. The program begins at 6:30 p.m. The event also features a full-course meal including salad, lemon peppered chicken, pork medallions, rice pilaf, vegetables, rolls and desert. Cost is \$20 per person. Dress is mess dress and semi-formal. Female semi-formal is a skirt or equivalent. Visit unit first sergeants by Feb. 14 to purchase tickets.

People who purchased their tickets in January probably have noticed the original date of the event changed to Feb. 22. This was to avoid conflict with multiple other wing events taking place that week and a three day weekend.



Staff Sgt. Tim Cook

**Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Cooper, 52nd Fighter Wing Command Post status of resources and training systems NCOIC, is this week's Top Saber Performer.**

## Top Saber Performer

**Name:** Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Cooper

**Unit:** 52nd Fighter Wing Command Post

**Duty title:** Status of resources and training system NCOIC

**Hometown:** Bloomfield, Mo.

**Years in Service:** 13.5 years

**Nominee's contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success:** Cooper ensures that the 13 SORTS reporting units on base keep the Joint Chiefs of Staff database up-to-date. This involves constant coordination with squadron, group- and wing-level commanders. Cooper handles this with skill and efficiency that is unmatched in U.S. Air Forces in Europe, according to his supervisor. Not only was Cooper given a "Pat on the Back" award during last year's operational readiness inspection, but he has been singled out by USAFE as the only wing monitor who has "broken the code" on tracking deployed equipment in the status of resources and training system. Cooper plays a key role in making sure that Team Eifel is ready and that USAFE and the rest of the wing chain of command knows it. His skill in maintaining command post equipment ensures command and control equipment is online 24-hours daily.

**Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits:** I attend the NCO Academy in February and upon return, I plan on finishing up my associate's degree. Making master sergeant is currently my top off-duty priority.

**What do you do for fun? Or, what's a fun thing you've done lately?** Travel throughout Germany and spend quality time with my wife. Recently, we traveled to Daun, Germany, to see the three volcanic lakes during a cold and foggy day. It was breathtaking.

**What do you like most about being stationed here?** Believe it or not, the weather. My wife and I enjoy a cloudy, foggy, or snowy days as opposed to a sunny ones. Germany is the perfect place for that. We wish it would snow more.

## Eifel Salutes

### 52nd Medical Group

**Senior Airman Cynthia Mawer** showed "good reflexes" in quickly responding to last-minute deployment processing requirements. **Staff Sgt. Dale Winters** gave his best shot at super back-up immunizations support. Glückwünsche, or, congratulations to **Brigitte Bell** of TRI-CARE, who speedily translated the small-pox briefing for the German Red Cross.

### 52nd Operations Group

Keeping Team Eifel Ready is the **23rd Fighter Squadron scheduling shop** who, undaunted by inclement weather, overtime and a more vigorous flying schedule has stepped in to cover the F-16 pilots remaining on base after recent deployments. **Staff Sgt. Tana Kellner, Staff Sgt. Naomie Gall, Airman 1st Class Kyla Cavota**, all of command support staff, showed they have the "byte stuff," by skillfully updating personnel in PC-III.

### 52nd Maintenance Group

A tireless supporter of squadron and wing events, **Staff Sgt. Amanda Johnson's** involvement with such programs as the 2nd Annual Red Ribbon Ride and the Spangdahlem Elementary School mentoring program earn her a blue ribbon. A hearty thanks to **Maria Checkley** who assisted the Eifel school board and aided

in the humanitarian reassignment of an active-duty member. **Airman 1st Class Arninya McNair-Joacin** deserves a pat on the back, as does **Staff Sgt. Alexander Brown**, who assisted a fellow airman in a smooth permanent change of station when the member's spouse was diagnosed with an illness and had to return home.

### 52nd Mission Support Group

Keeping Team Eifel both ready and secure is **Tech. Sgt. Margaret Santamaria**, unit training manager, who provided training and security clearances to over 390 men and women of the logistics readiness squadron. Also a key player is **Staff Sgt. Shella Duque-Daffern**, who as a security manager superbly ensures all squadron personnel have valid security clearances by processing investigations. **Senior Airman KariLee Garber** sees to it that their personnel make the grade by meticulously administering the ancillary training program. **Staff Sgt. Edward Purdy**, 52nd Communications Squadron, makes good airmen great airmen in his management of the 52nd Fighter Wing Airman Professional Development Seminar.

*Kudos to all, Team Eifel salutes you!*

(Compiled by Airman 1st Class Amaani F. Lyle)

Staff Sgt. Tim Cook

**Members of the 52nd Fighter Wing Command Post make up this week's Top Saber Team.**

## Top Saber Team

**Unit name:** 52nd Fighter Wing Command Post

**Unit responsibilities:** This wing staff agency is the command and control hub for the 52nd FW commander. Members ensure rapid response to a variety of emergency and contingency situations by providing timely notifications to emergency personnel and senior staff. Its members receive and respond to emergency action messages from U.S. Air Forces in Europe, European Command and Supreme Allied Commander Europe, quickly up-channeling all operational reports to higher headquarters within moments of reportable incidents. Members also man the support arm of the wing battle staff providing exercise and contingency support. Additionally, the agency tracks the wing's senior staff and provides a continuous communications link to all wing unit commanders.

**Number of members:** 19 enlisted, two officers and two contractors

**Team's latest contributions to 52nd FW mission success:** The command post stood up and staffed the battle staff during recent deployments. Its members kept senior wing leadership informed of personnel and resource issues to ensure swift and successful deployment of wing assets. USAFE officials recently praised the command post for its superior reporting in the status of resources and training system, the Air Force program through which the wing commander reports wing readiness to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. This staff wing agency continues to provide around the clock support to the commander, giving him complete command and control of the wing anytime of the day or night.

**Team's other contributions throughout the year:** Command post members played a key role in the response to unit aircraft mishaps during the past year. Their performance allowed the wing to respond quickly and effectively to these events. Additionally, the command post teamed up with the Treaty Compliance Office to help prepare superior command and control for potential international treaty compliance inspections by foreign nations. Command post members also support the Airman Against Drunk Driving program by volunteering as drivers throughout the year. During the difficult-to-fill holiday shifts, command post members logged more than 50 hours serving as AADD dispatch.

# Airmen log on to update emergency data cards

Wing members must complete online forms by March 2

By Maj. John Thomas  
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs Office

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** -- More than a week before its planned launch, the new Web-based emergency data card helped more than 1,000 airmen in Alaska mobilize for a real world deployment. Scheduled to kick off Jan. 27, the program came online early to help airmen deploy from Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, Air Force Personnel Center officials said.

Within the first week, more than 20,000 other people completed the form upon logging onto the virtual military personnel flight on the personnel center's Web site. Members of the 52nd Fighter Wing will add to those numbers during the next few weeks following a recent battle staff directive making completion

of Virtual Record of Emergency Data mandatory for all wing members. Deadline for completion is March 2, according to Tech. Sgt. Diane Pierce, 52nd Military Personnel Flight.

Called the Virtual Record of Emergency Data, or vRED, the on-line form provides the Air Force with information needed to contact family members if an airman suffers a serious illness or injury, or dies while on active duty.

The virtual program replaces the Department of Defense Form 93, Record of Emergency Data, and will need to be kept updated individually. The vMPF will prompt airmen to update their emergency data upon login.

Accurate and current family contact information can prevent delays of medical, casualty and death benefits for airmen and family

members, officials said. It also avoids hours or even days of uncertainty during which casualty teams are sometimes left to track down next of kin.

"That emergency information is essential for our casualty notification teams in case an airman becomes incapacitated or worse yet, killed," said Maj. Jerry Couvillion, AFPC casualty services branch chief. "Once the member initially completes the form, they will be able to go in at any time and update specific information as needed. It's simple and saves time."

Airmen can update their emergency contact information from any Web-connected computer rather than visiting their military personnel flights.

On the AFPC Web page at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil), people can select the "vMPF" logo at the top of the page. New vMPF users

will need to establish an account.

The online application, which takes most people about 15 minutes when properly completed, requires information on relatives and their physical addresses. The program doesn't accept mailing addresses, including post office boxes.

Conveniences include drop-down menus that keep users from having to re-enter addresses common to more than one person, said Couvillion. "And if someone needs to take a break or go home to look up an address, as often happens with this form, they can log off and log back in to the same place in the form where they left off." After completing vRed on-line forms, wing members must print a copy and turn it in to their unit deployment manager for filing in mobility folders.

For more information, call the military personnel flight at 452-6553. (Localized)

## Officials emphasize APO address caution

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez  
Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON** — World events have Air Force postal officials re-emphasizing the need for security when using the military mail system.

In particular, postal officials are concerned that airmen might not use an appropriate amount of discretion when distributing their overseas mailing addresses.

To reduce the vulnerability of using the mail system as a means to attack military people abroad, the Department of Defense officially suspended all "any servicemember" type mail programs in late 2000. Those programs allowed the general public to address letters and care packages to "any servicemember," and those items would in turn be delivered to military people serving overseas.

Those programs, according to DOD officials, were eliminated because they created an avenue to introduce biological, chemical or explosive materials into the military mail system, putting people in danger. At the same time, the programs left the sources of such material virtually untraceable.

Air Force officials have identified other potential vulnerabilities in the system. Those include Web sites that ask for overseas mailing addresses, publicly available sign-up sheets for phone cards or other goods to be sent overseas, said Bob Eichholz, the director of Air Force postal policy. It also includes local community efforts to gather up homemade goods and materials that can be sent from anonymous individuals to an APO address provided by a well-meaning servicemember.

"These are all well-intended programs to support the military," Eichholz said. "In the past those programs worked well, but today the same programs open us up to attacks from unknown sources. We have to take as many safeguards as we can to protect our mail system."

Postal officials recommend that people be as prudent with their APO addresses as possible — limiting where they post their address and to whom they hand it out.

"We recommend ... that members not just give out and advertise their APO addresses," Eichholz said. "Keep it for your business purposes and for your correspondence, but don't advertise it on a Web site."

He said there are some Web sites asking for people's addresses. On other Web sites, people leave their address to get a pen pal.

"We recommend people don't do that," Eichholz said. "You don't know where that mail is coming from or who has access to that address. You need to safeguard your APO address a little bit."

While the Air Force is emphasizing that people keep a short leash on their APO addresses, officials recognize that the American public wants to show support for its troops. Fortunately, said Eichholz, there are venues where people can do that without jeopardizing security.

"First, they've got the electronic 'any servicemember' programs," Eichholz said. "Also, you can support the United Services Organization and the Red Cross. Both organizations go overseas to help and support the troops. You can also help by supporting the various aid societies."

## BHS Math 911 tutoring program adds to student calculating skills

By Katie Carr  
Bitburg High School correspondent

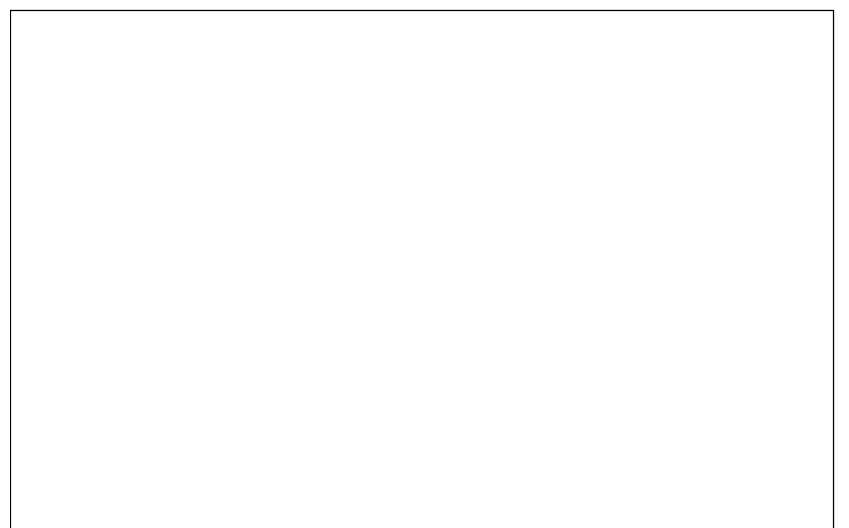
Volunteer tutoring is always in great demand and Bitburg High School is fortunate enough to provide its students with various opportunities to seek outside help.

The BHS mathematics department has seen just how beneficial tutoring can be through their very own program, Math 911. The program aims to aid students in improving their basic math skills as a support mechanism for regular math classes.

Students in upper-level math courses voluntarily contribute a half an hour of tutoring about three times weekly during study hall to help underclassmen broaden their mathematical knowledge. John Speegle, a mathematics teacher at BHS, has managed the year-round "peers helping peers" program for about seven years.

"It's a pleasure to see so many students participate enthusiastically in a program that has caused them to feel so much better about themselves," he said.

Not only does Speegle himself find Math 911 notably effective, but



Katie Carr

**Bitburg High School Senior Kirstin Pope tutors Freshman Robert Mikus during a weekly Math 911 sessions at BHS.**

so do the fifty-six students involved. Amy Huguen, a junior at Bitburg High School, is one of many tutors who volunteers her time to assist fellow students. In doing so, she gains personal gratification.

"It's satisfying to know that I'm able to help my peers raise their mathematical performance," she said.

Students have also discovered how advantageous the extra guidance can be. Freshman Alex Cobos

was tutored in the first semester and her enthusiasm and dedication to the program helped her succeed.

"I was successful in enhancing my math skills because Math 911 gave me the extra practice I needed to excel in my algebra class," she said.

Needless to say, this program has a long line of success stories and because of all of its advantages, Speegle plans to keep the program running for years to come.

## Briefs

### Continued from Page 1

while awaiting travel, and be in a leave or pass status the entire period of travel. For more information, visit the Air Mobility Command public Web site at <http://amcpbublic.scott.af.mil/Spacea/spacea.htm>.

### Spouses groups meet

■The 52nd Mission Support Squadron Spouses Group meets Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the legal office conference room, Spangdahlem AB building 129.

■The 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Spouses Group meets Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in Spangdahlem AB building 103.

■The 52nd Communications Squadron Spouses Group meets Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the Bitburg Annex Chapel. Event includes a potluck Italian dinner.

### Tier Two meeting

Tier Two, a professional organization for NCOs, meets Thursday at noon in Spangdahlem AB building 316. All staff and technical sergeants are encouraged to attend.

### Passport office closure

The base passport office is closed Feb. 17-24. For emergency assistance, the office is open Feb. 19 and 21. Call the office at 452-6813 for details.

### Used luggage wanted

The 52nd Security Forces Squadron military working dog section needs used luggage for detection training. Give donations to a security forces member at Spangdahlem AB building 362 or call Staff Sgt. Brent Sanders at 452-6511 or 452-6716 for pick up.



## Community Mailbox

### Alcoholics Anonymous

Meetings takes place each Tuesday, Friday and Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2015.

### Singing telegrams

The 52nd Contracting Squadron booster club provides singing telegram services Feb. 14 on Bitburg Annex and Spangdahlem AB. Cost of \$10 includes a delivered serenade or poem, a single red rose and an e-mailed digital photograph. Order telegrams by Wednesday by calling Staff Sgt. Keith Hisle at 452-9046 or e-mail keith.hisle@spangdahlem.af.mil.

### First aid classes

A class on community first aid and safety takes place Feb. 22 from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2001. Course includes infant, child and adult CPR instruction. Registration deadline is Feb. 18. Cost is \$40. Call 452-9440 to register or for more information.

### Internet use special

Deployed spouses can use the Internet free for one hour at the Internet Cafe with a copy of their spouse's deployment orders. Call 452-5326 for more information.

### Dining facility news

The Mosel Hall Dining Facility is located in Spangdahlem AB building 147. Call 452-6727 for more information.

■The dining facility closes for renovations Feb. 24 through Sept. 1. Airmen qualifying for subsistence in kind will receive rations-in-kind subsistence not available for the duration of the facility closure.

■An Airman's Appreciation dinner takes place Wednesday from 5:30-7 p.m. Menu includes steak, chicken breast, lobster tail and fried shrimp. Registration deadline is today. Call to reserve seats.

■A special President's Day meal takes place Feb. 17 from 3:30-6:30 p.m. Menu includes roast beef, fried catfish and Dijon chicken.

■A deployed family dinner takes place Feb. 19 from 4:15-7 p.m. Menu includes corn dogs, chicken nuggets and barbecue spare ribs.

### Relationship workshop

The two-part course, the art of relationships, takes place Tuesday and Feb. 18 from



*Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek*

### Meeting of the moms

Physician's Assistant 1st. Lt. Randall Stevens, 52nd Medical Operations Squadron, discusses health care issues with Mothers of Preschoolers attendees Jan. 27. MOPS, a base activity for expecting mothers and mothers of children ages 5 and younger, meets Monday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in Spangdahlem Air Base building 139. Meetings feature guest speakers and crafts for mothers while children are cared for on the premises. Call the chapel office at 452-6711 for more information.

3:30-5:30 p.m. Call Michele Linnen, family advocacy outreach manager, at 452-8288 or 452-8279 to register or for more information.

### Girl Scout cookies

Special Girl Scout cookie sales, featuring Thin Mints, take place today from 5-7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex exchanges and commissaries.

### PWOC meeting

Protestant women of the chapel meet Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Spangdahlem AB chapel. Members will discuss the upcoming spring retreat, taking place March 7-9. Call Maj. Elaine Washington at 452-8126 for more information.

### Playgroups

A preschool playgroup meets each Tuesday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in Spangdahlem AB military family housing building 409-C. A playgroup meets in the Bitburg Annex temporary lodging facility, building 2. The playgroups offer parents and children an opportunity to meet other military families, build a support network and learn about Eifel region family activities. Call Michele Linnen at 452-8279 for more information.

### School news

■Spangdahlem Elementary School officials seek student mentoring program volunteers to

offer academic assistance a minimum of one hour weekly. Teachers provide assignments and materials. Call Barabara Triplett at 452-6881 or 452-6170 for more information.

■An Eifel School Board meeting takes place Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Bitburg Middle School.

■College scholarship applications are available at the Bitburg High School counselor's office. Application deadline is Feb. 28.

### Community bank closure

Spangdahlem AB Community Bank branch is open Wednesday from noon to 4 p.m. and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. as a result of monthly training. The Bitburg Annex branch is open Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursday from noon to 4 p.m.

### Family support news

The following workshops take place in Spangdahlem AB building 307. Call 452-9491 for details.

■Predeployment briefing for active-duty and family members, Tuesday and Feb. 18 from 1-2 p.m.

■Resume writing, Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon.

■Interviewing techniques, Thursday from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

■Mutual funds, Part II, Thursday from 6-8 p.m.

The following workshop takes place in Bitburg Annex building 2001.

■Spouses' orientation, Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon.

### Volunteers needed

Volunteer help is needed at the Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex Airman's Attic, Loan Locker, in the schools and at other base agencies. No experience is necessary. Also, base volunteers may qualify for recognition program benefits. Call Kelly Childs, base volunteer resource program manager, at 452-9491 for more information.

### CAC news

The following events take place in the base community activity center, building 124. Call 452-7381 for details.

■Local area network party takes place Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Participants should bring their computer and headphones. Cost is \$5 per person.

■"Magic" tournament, Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. Cost of \$25 per person includes a starter pack of cards and two booster packs. All skill levels welcome.

■Valentine's Day singing telegrams are available Feb. 14 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$15 per song, \$40 for three songs. Call to schedule.

■A singles party takes place Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. The event is free, beverages will be available for purchase.

### Talent show

The date for the youth talent show is changed to March 20. Youth ages 6-18 are encouraged to enter in vocal, instrumental, performing arts and dance categories. Registration deadline is Feb. 24. A talent clinic takes place Feb. 22. Call 452-7381 for details.

### Staying fit

The Health and Wellness Center offers the following classes in Spangdahlem AB building 130. For more information, call 452-9355.

■Jump start, a course on nutrition and exercise, takes place Tuesday at 9 a.m.

■A cooking demonstration takes place Wednesday at 1 p.m.

■Tobacco cessation takes place Thursday at 3 p.m.

■Sensible weigh takes place Feb. 18 at 2 p.m.

### Education center news

The cutoff date for the Community College of the Air Force April graduation is Feb. 28. All degree candidate documentation must be turned in by this date for students to graduate in the spring. For a degree review and progress report, visit an education services center counselor. The base education office is located in building 192. Call the office at 452-6063 for more information.

## Der Markt

#### Advertisement policy

Der Markt is for the personal resale of items by military and civilian employees and their families. Items such as advertisements for rental property won't be published due to funded paper restraints. Ads should be 35 words or less and customers are limited to no more than two ads per week. Ads must be typed or printed legibly and turned into the public affairs office, building 23, by close of business Wednesday, **10 days prior to publication**. Ads can also be e-mailed to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil or sent via fax to 452-5254. Having ads in by deadline does not guarantee publication. Ads for services generating regular income will not be published. The ads must include the sponsor's name and telephone number. Ads not meeting these requirements, including those exceeding the designated word limits, will not be printed. The *Eifel Times* staff reserves the right to edit ads.

Col. Stephen Mueller

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a way to get answers to questions you still have after using your chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest will be published in the *Eifel Times* and may be edited or paraphrased for brevity or clarity. Submit your Direct Line via:

- DirectLine@spangdahlem.af.mil
- Mailed to 52nd FW/PA, Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE 09126
- To PA in building 23.
- Concerns may also be sent via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are accepted. To receive a personal response you must include your name and phone number. Call the Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more information.

Sortie  
Scoreboard

Unit	Goal	Flown
22FS	100	92
23FS	87	39
81FS	91	55

Sorties flown  
Jan. 27-Feb. 2

# Viewpoint

Feb. 7, 2003

Page 6

## From the top

# SECDEF thanks military for recent sacrifices

By Donald Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense

WASHINGTON — For more than a year, the brave men and women of the U.S. military, together with their civilian counterparts in the Department of Defense — have been working to preserve peace and defend freedom against terrorist forces and those who would harbor and protect them around the world.

To each of you, and your families, we express our profound gratitude and appreciation for the risks you undertake and the sacrifices you make so that all Americans can enjoy the blessings of freedom. This war, as the President (George W. Bush) has said, is not one of our making. It was thrust upon us. We act in self-defense - in deliberate

response to acts of war directed against the American people, and to prevent future acts from claiming even more innocent life. We are engaged in a global war, and it is being waged on many fronts using all the instruments of national power.

In recent weeks and months, the president has called the world’s attention to Saddam Hussein’s regime in Iraq. He has rallied the United Nations to enforce its resolutions calling for the regime’s disarmament. To assist this diplomatic offensive and to preserve future options, adjustments to current mobilization, deployment and rotation cycles may be necessary, adjustments that may mean longer tours of duty than you may have expected.

While the times, places, and conditions of

deployment cannot now be precisely known, we do recognize the uncertainty these circumstances may create for those in uniform, the civilians who work beside them, and the families and loved ones, without whose support their sacrifices would not be possible.

I know the secretaries and chiefs of the military services are communicating with you in greater detail about these matters, but I want you to know that understanding the impacts of these deployments is important to us. Be assured that the president will not decide to commit forces unless conditions require it, and only as a last resort. Should action be necessary, you will have what you need to carry out the missions assigned. Thank you for all you do for our nation and the world.

# Wing commander outlines goals for mission success

By Col. Stephen Mueller  
52nd Fighter Wing commander

I’m a steadfast believer in goals -- they light the way to successful mission accomplishment. Since my first day as the 52nd Fighter Wing commander, I’ve verbally shared my goals in how I believe we can achieve mission success.

Each and every member of the 52nd Fighter Wing’s personal readiness, communication skills and professional and personal relationships are key factors to this wing’s success. Take the time to study these goals and relate to them. Find out what they mean to you and how you can use them. I think you’ll find that they will weave nicely into your existing goals for yourself and your organization.

The first goal focuses on our primary mission — to be prepared to carry out what our nation asks us to do. It takes a certain level of readiness and preparedness to accomplish this task. It’s everyone’s responsibility, from colonel to airman, to be personally ready to complete the mission. It’s also everyone’s respon-

sibility to ensure that those around them are ready as well.

The second goal, information superiority, aims to distribute and arm each person on Spangdahlem Air Base with the information needed to complete the task at hand. This involves all types of information — spoken, written and electronic. Make sure you’re “getting the word” as well as giving it.

The third goal seeks to take care of our most important resource — our people. The Air Force is more than a job — it’s a family and a way life. Strive to look out for the folks around you and recognize a good job when you see one — you don’t have to be someone’s supervisor to let them know that you appreciate what they are doing for the Air Force.

Again, I encourage you to incorporate these goals into your own. You’ll find that they will make a welcome addition and will help the 52nd Fighter Wing continue to be known as the best base in the Air Force!

## 52nd Fighter Wing Goals

### No. 1: Train to fight, win and be ready

*Maintain a qualified workforce to complete the mission.*

- Foster expeditionary mindset through personal readiness and functional competency.
- Maximize participation in the training process.
- Everyone is a trainer and a trainee.

### No. 2: Information superiority

*Right information to the right person in a timely manner*

- Effective two-way communication.
- Ensure e-mail protocol proficiency.
- Increase person-to-person communication up and down the chain of command.
- Tune in to base media for important information.
- Understand individual role in operations and communications security vigilance.

### No. 3: Take care of your Air Force family

- Ensure mental, spiritual and physical health of yourself, your family, your peers and your people
- Understand the importance of your role and others to the mission.
- Appropriately recognize great work and effort in a timely manner through formal and informal measures.
- Proactively plan to establish priorities and predictability.

## Force protection

# Awareness is key to keeping family safe from terrorist threats

By Jim Leahy  
52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron

This year is overshadowed by a threat that can reach into all our lives. This threat is terrorism. In Europe, terrorism and terrorist activity isn’t unknown. One example is the Irish Republican Army in Northern Ireland.

The American presence here in the Eifel is well established with its large military and family member population and its many facilities. This presence is ideal for terrorists. In view of this, I would like to give some key points for everyone to think about and put into practice.

Our main weapon in this fight is to be aware, to observe and to be vigilant. Our enemy in this fight isn’t only the terrorist, but also our own complacen-

cy. “It won’t happen here” is a common assumption, but the harsh reality is that it can. Terrorists know no national boundaries and if government policies aren’t to their liking, then they know no government.

Being aware means knowing there is a threat, knowing the current risk level in your community and having knowledge of the current world situation in view to terrorism.

Observing is noting happenings, that seem out of place and situations which seem odd. The secret is to hold that thought for a split second and then register it before it leaves you. If something isn’t as it should be, then report to it .

Vigilance means not taking things for granted, be

wary and watchful, protect and be prepared.

For example blend into the community, remove American stickers from your vehicle, consider your civilian clothing when going out.

When leaving home for work, check underneath your car for strange objects and protrusions. Change the route you drive to work every so often. This can be as easy as occasionally turning right instead of left when leaving your house.

Notice strange occurrences. For example, take a mental note of that car parked on the opposite side of the road that you haven’t seen in your village before. Write down the vehicle tag number.

It may seem like much, but you’ll be surprised how quickly vigilance becomes part of your routine.



Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless indicated. More synopsis information is available at [www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp](http://www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp).

Bitburg Castle

Today  
*Lord of the Rings, Part II: The Two Towers (PG-13)*  
The second book of the Tolkien trilogy. Hobbit Frodo braves great dangers in an attempt destroy an evil ring. (Violence.)

Saturday  
*Lord of the Rings, Part II: The Two Towers*

Sunday  
*My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG)*  
Ian asks Toula to marry him. He is tall, handsome and definitely not Greek. Toula knows that if he can pass muster with her crazy relatives and get baptized in the Greek Orthodox Church, their big Greek wedding, will be a piece of cake. (Sensuality and language.)

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday  
*Lord of the Rings, Part II: The Two Towers*

Thursday  
*Moonlight Mile (PG-13)*  
When Joe Nast’s plans for marriage change due to an unexpected loss, he wants to be the man he believes everyone wants him to be - a dutifully bereaved husband-to-be and perfect would-be son-in-law. But, when another woman unexpectedly enters his life, he’s quickly torn between fulfilling his new role and following his heart. (Sensuality and language.)

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today  
*Catch Me If You Can (PG-13)*  
Frank W. Abagnale lived a life of crime using his abilities of forgery and subterfuge. FBI agent Joe Shaye, respected Abagnale’s abilities so much that he eventually worked out the deal that got him out of prison after just five years. (Sexual content and language.)

*Friday After Next (R, 10 p.m.)*  
A thief is stealing Christmas presents and cousins Craig Day-Day decides to catch the “ghetto Santa” to keep the spirit of the holiday alive. (Language, sexual content and drug use.)

Saturday  
*Half Past Dead (PG-13)*  
Criminal mastermind Donny has set in motion a plan to infiltrate a high tech prison in order to persuade a death-row inmate to reveal the whereabouts of \$200 million worth of gold. Undercover FBI agent Sascha must stop him before it’s too late. (Violence, language and sexual content.)

*Friday After Next (10 p.m.)*

Sunday  
*Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (PG)*  
Harry and friends return for their second year at Hogwarts, where things are far more intense. Harry begins to come into his own as a wizard while doing battle with Draco Malfoy, the Slytherin Quidditch team, and an evil and powerful new foe. (Scary scenes, violence and language.)

Monday  
*Catch Me If You Can*

Tuesday  
*Half Past Dead*

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Times and movies are subject to change.  
For the most current information,  
call 452-9441.

Ancient European holiday of love more popular in U.S. than locally

By Iris Reiff  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Valentine’s Day is celebrated in a much bigger way in the U.S. than it is in Germany, although the event originates in Europe, dating back to ancient Roman times.

The tradition relates to the priest Valentin, who lived during 2nd century in Rome. At the time, Christians were persecuted for their religious beliefs and so was Valentin. Against all advice from the emperor Claudius, Valentin conducted Christian weddings and presented flowers. He was later prosecuted for his practices.

On Feb. 14, 269 A.D., Valentin received the death penalty. By 313 A.D., Christianity was officially accepted by Constantine the Great and since the middle of the 4th century, Valentin has been celebrated as a Christian martyr.

In France and England the tradition has been carried on since the 14th century. Under superstitious belief, the man who appeared in front of a maid’s house on Valentine’s Day would become her husband. Since the end of World War II, Germans consider Valentine’s Day as a special day for couples in love.

“Younger generations, like my daughter’s, celebrate Valentine’s Day more than their parents,” said Konnie Pitsch, 52nd Fighter Wing community relations specialist. “My daughter always gives me a small gift, such as perfume. We don’t do lunch or dinner. It’s just like with Halloween, where the younger kids celebrate it.”

Valentine’s Day has become a very commercial event, a holiday that many older Germans refuse to support. However, long lines at flower shops can be seen throughout the country, especially in the bigger cities.

Shops offer everything from special Valentine’s Day flower arrangements to gift baskets, which are especially popular with customers ages 20-30. Red ribbons and heart-shaped balloons are popular gifts for close friends and family. Gift shoppers will find that everything reads, “Happy Valentine’s Day” in German or English languages.

“I always have a small surprise for my wife and daughter on Valentines day,” said Bernhard Schaefer, 52nd FW community relations advisor. “For me it is simply a way to show and receive appreciation. In return I usually receive a big hug from



Card courtesy of Iris Reiff

Valentine’s Day cards, such as the one shown, candy and flowers are increasing in popularity as local holiday gifts. This card states, “Viele Gruesse zum Valentinstag,” which translates to “Many greetings on Valentine’s Day.”

my daughter and a great surprise from my wife later.”

U.S. citizen Pete Neukom, 52nd FW Rhein-Main Transitions Office, who is married to a German national, said he noticed that Germans have only started celebrating the holiday within the past few years.

“I will have a surprise for my wife who does tole painting,” he said. “I usually also take her out to dinner.”

However, according to some male German base employees, appreciating family members should take place every day.

“We don’t need a special feast to show our love and appreciation. Getting flowers for the wife or inviting her to dinner to them is a normal thing. Valentine’s Day doesn’t make it special,” said one employee.

Sports Shorts

Bowling

The Eifel Lanes Shoot Out takes place Saturday at 2 p.m. at the base bowling center. Cost is \$40 per bowler. Winner takes home \$500 or more, depending on the number of entrants. Tournament lasts three rounds. Signup takes place at 1 p.m. Eifel Lanes Bowling Center is located in Spangdahlem Air Base building 300. Call 452-6217 for more information.

Hunting licenses

A meeting on German hunting licenses takes place Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the outdoor recreation facility, Spangdahlem AB building 146. Also, a German hunting course takes place each Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30-8:30 p.m. from Feb. 25 to May 15 at outdoor recreation. Call 452-7176 for more information.

Skiing and snowboarding event

The 2003 U.S. Forces Europe Ski and Snowboard Race Series take place at Aviano AB, Italy March 1-2. The pre-registration deadline is Feb. 28. Late registration takes place March 1 before races begin later in the morning. Visit [www.31svs-aviano.com/leisure/sports\\_ski\\_champ.htm](http://www.31svs-aviano.com/leisure/sports_ski_champ.htm) or call the Aviano AB fitness center at 632-7574 for registration forms or more information.

Basketball tourney

The Ramstein AB African-American Heritage Basketball Tournament takes place Feb. 15-16 at the Ramstein AB south-side fitness center. The event is open to any intramural or unit-level team. Prizes will be awarded to first, second and third place individuals, teams and most-valuable players. A three-point shoot and dunk contest will also take place. Entry deadline is Monday. Cost to enter the 14-team double-elimination

tournament is \$100. Call Master Sgt. Isaiah Rivers at 480-8512 for more information.

Football

The Langenfeld Longhorns, a semi-professional Divison II football team near Cologne, Germany, seeks experienced players on skill positions for the upcoming football season. Visit [www.langenfeld-longhorns.de](http://www.langenfeld-longhorns.de) or call Max Paatz, team recruiting manager, at 01772-416770 for more information.

Swimming lessons

Eifel Sharks swimming lessons for children ages 3 and older take place each Monday for five weeks throughout March. Sessions take place from 4-4:45 p.m. and another from 5-5:45 p.m. Registration takes place Feb. 20 from 4-6 p.m. at Bitburg Annex youth programs facility. Space is limited and offered on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call Laura Darden at 06561-604768 or e-mail [ldarden@yahoo.com](mailto:ldarden@yahoo.com), or call Tiina O’Sullivan at 06563-960742 or e-mail [tiinaLV@aol.com](mailto:tiinaLV@aol.com).

Volksmarching

The Eifel Wanderers volksmarch in Rothenburg takes place Feb. 22. The \$35 charge for adults and \$25 for children includes transportation and a start card, which is good for city museum discounts. Call Theresa Stevens today at 06569-963184 or e-mail [chatterbox@gruenewald.de](mailto:chatterbox@gruenewald.de) for details.

Youth sports

Baseball and softball registration starts March 2 at the Spangdahlem Air Base youth programs sports office, located in building 427. Call 452-7545 for information.

# BHS Ladies clean court with four game sweep

By Denny Lemmon  
Lady Barons basketball coach

Last weekend the Bitburg High School Lady Barons basketball teams got back on to the winning track as they defeated the visiting Vilseck Falcons in all four games.

The varsity team won 75-42 on Friday night and 50-20 on Saturday afternoon giving the team a four win and four-loss record. The junior varsity team won Friday night 28-15 and Saturday morning 27-20 to improve to a glossy seven win and one loss record.

## Varsity action

Friday, the Lady Barons got the opening tip and scored in the first seconds of the game. Their full-court pressure defense stymied the Falcons and the Ladies jumped out to 20-6 first quarter lead. It was the most points scored by the Barons in one quarter this season. The Barons led at the half 37-14.

Sophomore Nadia Parker scored at will against the Falcon defense hitting 18 of her game high 34 points in the first half. Many of those points were assisted from her teammates as the Lady Barons chalked up 25 assists for the game. Erica Winters led the team in that department with eight.

The second half was similar to the first half as BHS outscored its opponents 38-28. Seniors Sabrina Blaus and Tanja Moore each contributed 11 and nine points respectively. Moore led the team in steals with 14.

Saturday, the varsity Ladies followed the same game plan as Friday and it still worked well as the Lady Barons jumped off to an even bigger lead after the first quarter 22-3. Nadia Parker once again receiving many fine passes from her teammates poured in 20 of her game high 32 points all in the first half. The Lady Barons took a commanding 34-7 lead at the half.

Tanja Moore contributed ten points, pulled down 13 rebounds and had eleven steals. Parker had one of her best weekend series by chalking up a pair of triple -- double outings scoring 66 points, pulling down 30 rebounds and making 22 steals. Moore played well Friday, but she also had a triple double on Saturday scoring 10 points, 13 rebounds and making 11 steals. If the Lady Barons continue to play together as a team as they did this past weekend, they should be able to compete with any team in Germany.

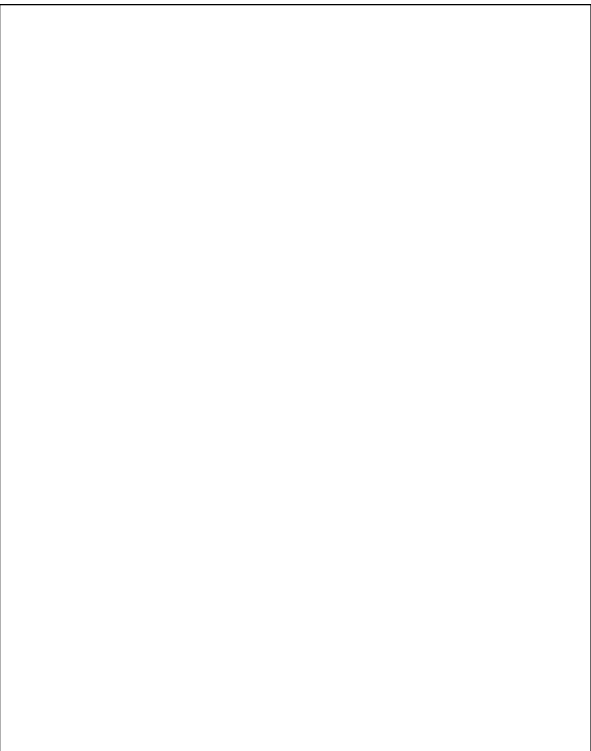
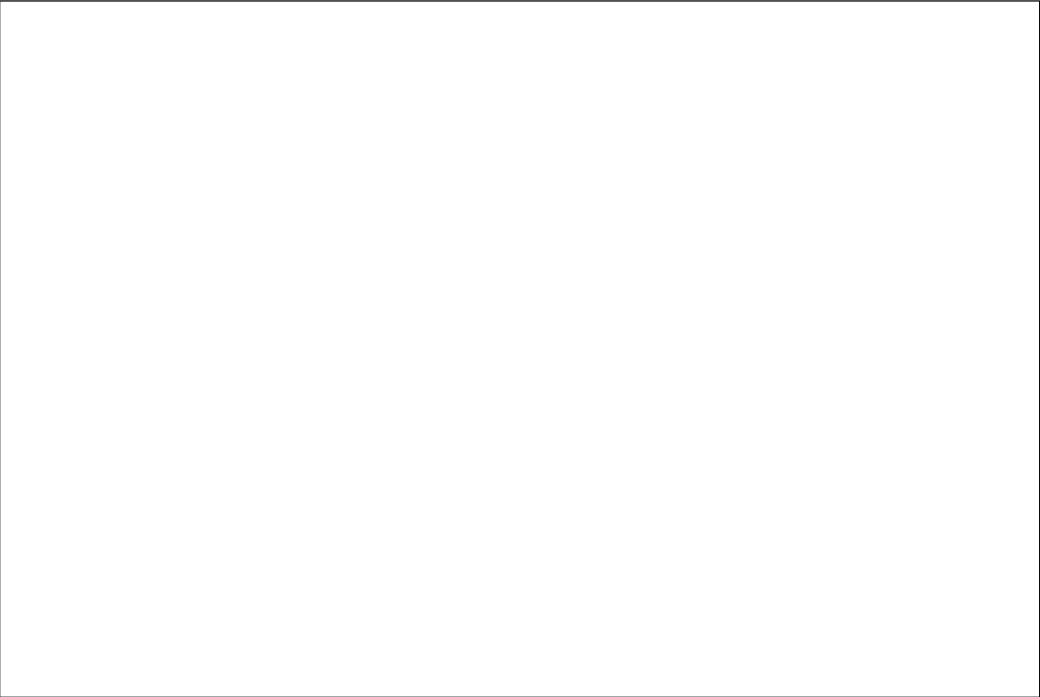
The next week will be challenging for BHS as the Ladies travel to SHAPE, Belgium, this weekend and then to Patch to play the undefeated Panthers the following weekend.

## Junior varsity action

The junior varsity team demonstrated a balanced scoring attack Friday evening as seven players scored. Combining that with good defense the Lady Barons were able to take an 18-4 halftime lead.

All players saw plenty of action throughout the game. Talented freshman Carletta Hernandez led all scorers with 12. Monica Bintz added six and Andrea Drake, Rachel Neice, Casey Martin, Melodie Duperval and Krystal Vasquez each scored two.

Saturday, the Lady Barons demonstrated the fact that you can't just show up to win the game. The Falcons were eager to win and were only behind by one point 15-16 going into the final quarter. Hernandez and Duperval teamed up for ten points in that crucial fourth quarter to outscore the Falcons 12-5 to give the Lady Barons a rather shaky victory. Vasquez added five and freshman Jazmine Winn contributed six in the winning effort.



Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek

## 'Board' of winter?

Above, Tom Murray, 52nd Services Squadron Outdoor Recreation clerk, inspects the shop's ski and snowboard boot inventory. Outdoor Recreation offers a full line of snowboards, skis and other winter recreation equipment for rent throughout the season. Left, David Rust, 52nd SVS ODR specialist, applies several coats of wax to a snowboard in the sporting equipment maintenance shop. Outdoor Recreation also sponsors winter activities. The Swiss adventures ski trip takes place Feb. 14-17. Cost is \$265 for dorm rooms, \$300 for quad rooms and \$350 per person for double rooms. ODR also visits an indoor skiing and snowboarding park Feb. 22. Cost is \$45 per person.

# Barons take close loss to Falcons

BHS quick offense claims first half advantages, Vilseck third-quarter comebacks turn game tide

By Beverly Phillips  
Barons basketball

Gutsy performances by the Bitburg High School Barons basketball team gave the visiting Vilseck squad two exciting games last weekend. Unfortunately for the home team, Vilseck Falcons pulled out wins Friday, 61-53, and Saturday, 55-50.

## Varsity action

The Barons had their chances to win both games. After controlling the opening tip Friday night, BHS used a pair of three-point shots by sophomore point guard Eric Pumbo and three two-pointers by junior Joel Brown to take a 13-10 lead at the end of the first quarter.

The Brown-Pumbo tandem continued to click in the second quarter with Brown picking up six more points and Pumbo adding eight, with two more three-pointers. Sophomore Trey Wilson also scored four in the second quarter and BHS took a 33-25 lead into the intermission.

Vilseck, however, made the third quarter its own, stunning the Barons with a steal-fast break combination that generated nine BHS turnovers and

devastated the youthful Barons. Vilseck's 27-6 scoring edge in the third quarter was more than enough against a Bitburg squad that made only five of 21 field goal attempts in the fourth quarter, making a comeback impossible.

Brown finished the night with 19 points and 19 rebounds. Pumbo had a total of 15 points. Senior Ryan Thomas and freshman B.J. Phillips each contributed six points and Phillips added seven rebounds. Senior Ray Hernandez scored three points in the game and contributed solid defense off the bench.

Saturday's game was the last at home for BHS seniors, who also included Trey Murray in a starting role. Senior Joel Parker was not able to play due to illness.

Bitburg again had the lead at the end of the first quarter, 14-13. But Vilseck's high-pressure tactics forced eight Bitburg turnovers in both the second and fourth quarters and kept the Baron shooters off-balance.

Brown was again the leading scorer, with 15 points, and led in rebounds with 16. Thomas scored 14 and added

six rebounds. Hernandez, Pumbo, and junior Alyx Walks each scored five points.

"We played one of our better games as a team," said Coach Lin Hairstone. "But we made too many rookie mistakes. We made some critical errors that resulted in points for Vilseck."

Hairstone was encouraged by the team's effort, however. "We're getting better. Hopefully by the time the tournament comes along, we'll be able to surprise some people," he said.

## Junior varsity action

The Barons JV team dropped both games this weekend to a very talented and athletic Vilseck JV. After a lopsided 50-19 loss of Friday night, the JV Barons nearly came away with a win Saturday.

Several defensive adjustments by Coach Dave Martz helped the Barons battle Vilseck to the end before losing 37-31. Ryan Dumas led the JV Barons with 11 points and Anthony Fornicola pulled down 13 rebounds and had several blocked shots.

The Division II tournament is Feb. 20-22 in Mannheim, Germany. Bitburg travels to SHAPE, Belgium today for a weekend series.

# Barons battle bug while attempting to topple K-town

By Ethan Lake  
Barons wrestling assistant coach

The Bitburg High School Barons wrestling team battled against several tough opponents this past week — a stomach bug and Europe's top Division I schools, including Kaiserslautern. The bug hit its peak as the team entered the tournament at Ramstein Air Base with only 11 of the 14 weight classes filled.

"This is the first time all season that we haven't had a wrestler at every weight class," said Tony Muggerud, one of the team's assistant volunteer coaches. "Even some of the wrestlers who wrestled on Saturday weren't feeling well; however, they went out and did their best for the team."

Despite their misfortune, the Barons went on to finish just behind Division I powerhouse K-town.

John Coker placed first against season rival Chris Barbe from Ramstein in the 112-pound weight class. At 125 pounds, Devon Gardner again placed first defeating previously unbeaten Andrew Zachar from Heidelberg. Coming in second place were Daniel Brunal at 103 pounds, Steve Gutschow at 140 pounds, and Randy VanGinkel at 275 pounds. Rounding out the top four were Joseph Mueller and Matt Wilson, Kyle McQuiston, David Vilanova, Justin Cole, and Jeremy Wooten.

The Barons head to Mannheim, Germany, Saturday for the European championships and to defend their Division II title. As it stands, the BHS team looks set to repeat its success of last year, bringing home another Division II title for the school.